

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

S. Stevenson  
#6/a  
10-1601

In re Continuation Application of: )  
Shinji TAKEDA et al. ) Att'y. Docket: TM&K0006  
Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ (based on U. S. )  
Patent Application Serial No. 08/981,702, )  
filed March 31, 1998) )  
Filed: Herewith )  
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND )  
PROCESS FOR FABRICATION ) Date: February 20, 2001  
THEREOF )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (A)**

**BOX: PATENT APPLICATION**  
Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee, please amend the above-captioned application  
as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 1, immediately below the title, please insert the following paragraph:

-- This application is a continuation of U. S. Patent Application Serial No.

08/981,702, filed March 31, 1998, which in turn corresponds to International

Application No. PCT/JP96/01886, filed July 8, 1996, which in turn is related to and

claims the early filing date of Japanese Patent Application No. 7-171154, filed July 6,

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